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REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1951.

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ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Mildenhall in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

July 1952.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Mildenhall.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration my sixteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being that for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency and Allied Subjects (London), appointed in 1936.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:- Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C., Cosford R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C. and Thingoe R.D.C.

(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector,
H. W. Trotter, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.I.,
appointed in 1935, also Building Surveyor.

One Additional Sanitary Inspector,
Edward Banks, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Certificate R.S.I.,
appointed 21st April, 1947.

Public Health Committee.

Rev. J. L. Sowden, Chairman.
Mr. B. A. M. Lingwood, Vice-Chairman.

Miss I. J. Davies.
Mr. J. A. Dow.
Rev. F. Eley.
Mr. F. W. Gentle.
Mr. W. G. Halford.
Mr. H. J. Kidd.
Mr. H. Lockwood.
Mr. W. J. Lock.
Mr. A. Rolph.
Mr. R. Spooner.

Ex-Officio.
Major A. W. Neve, J.P., Chairman of the Council.
Mr. S. F. Parker, Vice-Chairman of the Council.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. **GENERAL STATISTICS.** Area .. .. 86,759 acres.

	1951	(1950)	(1949)
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	21,700	(15,390)	(14,390)
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	4,346	(4,276)	(4,214)
Rateable Value	£64,952	(£63,552)	(£62,963)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£254	(£245)	(£237)

2. **EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.**

	Total.			Male.			Female.		
Live Births.	1951.	(1950)	(1949)	1951.	(1950)	(1949)	1951	(1950)	(1949)
Legitimate	316	(280)	(285)	162	(153)	(156)	154	(127)	(129)
Illegitimate	22	(15)	(11)	11	(6)	(6)	11	(9)	(5)
Stillbirths.									
Legitimate	10	(6)	(9)	4	(4)	(5)	6	(2)	(4)
Illegitimate	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)
Deaths.	169	(172)	(168)	74	(89)	(103)	95	(83)	(65)
Deaths under one year.	6	(8)	(9)	1	(5)	(8)	5	(3)	(1)

	Mildenhall.			England & Wales.		
	1951	(1950)	(1949)	1951	(1950)	(1949)
Birth Rate. (Live births per 1000 population).	15.6	(19.2)	(20.6)	15.5	(15.8)	(16.7)
Comparability Factor, Births	1.08	(1.05)				
Corrected Birth Rate.	16.8	(20.1)				
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 population.	0.46	(0.39)	(0.63)	0.36	(0.37)	(0.39)
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live and still)births.	28.7	(19.9)	(29.5)			
Death Rate per 1000 resident population.	7.8	(11.2)	(11.7)	12.5	(11.6)	(11.7)
Comparability Factor, Deaths	0.96	(0.97)				
Corrected Death Rate.	7.5	(10.8)				
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year. All infants per 1000 live births.	17.8	(27)	(30)	29.6	(30)	(32)
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.	19.0	(29)	(32)			
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	Nil	(Nil)	(Nil)			

The six deaths under one year of age (all legitimate infants) which included 4 females under 4 weeks of age, were as follows:-

Female, 1 hour.	Congenital heart disease.
Female, 3 hours.	Intercranial haemorrhage - birth injury.
Female, 2 days.	Cerebral haemorrhage from birth.
Female, 1 week.	Pneumonia.
Female, 3 months.	Asphyxia. Result of accidentally inhaling her own vomit.
Male, 3 months.	Pneumonia, Congenital Heart Disease.

The only other death in the nonage was that of a boy aged 12, (surgical shock, major operation, severe Kyphoscoliosis).

The following table gives the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

As in last year's report the deaths have been classified to conform with implementation of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948 - these regulations being set out on pages 371-376 of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.																	
M = Male. F = Female.	Under 1 year.		1 to 4 years.		5 to 14 years.		15 to 24 years.		25 to 44 years.		45 to 64 years.		65 to 74 years.		75 years & over.		TOTAL Registrar General's figures.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	2	5	3	6	8
16. Diabetes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	5	2	8	6	14
18. Coronary disease, angina.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	1	3	4	7	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	4	3	7	17	12	23
21. Other circulatory disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
22. Influenza.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	2	-	4	2
23. Pneumonia.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	1	3	5
24. Bronchitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
31. Congenital malformations.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	1	7	10	12	16
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	-
34. All other accidents.	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	2
35. Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Total: Males.	1	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	3	-	14	-	14	-	35	-	74	-
Total: Females.	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	16	-	22	-	50	-	95

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Year.	Rateable Value.	Penny Rate Product.	No. of inhabited houses.	Registrar General's Estimate Population.	Total Deaths.	Deaths under One Year.		Births.		Stillbirths.	
						Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.
1936.	£38,063	£167	3,406	12,290	174	8	Nil	176	8	9	Nil
1937.	£42,902	£174	3,507	12,370	165	14	Nil	221	7	7	Nil
1938.	£43,405	£174	3,500	12,440	134	6	Nil	170	5	7	Nil
1939.	£44,038	£188	3,528	12,700	140	7	Nil	185	5	6	Nil
1940.	£45,912	£191	3,968	12,970	171	11	Nil	197	5	5	1
1941.	£49,422	£206	3,623	13,410	168	5	Nil	209	15	7	1
1942.	£53,231	£221	3,628	12,660	162	10	1	265	11	4	1
1943.	£57,789	£241	3,627	12,820	144	7	Nil	206	10	4	Nil
1944.	£53,814	£208	3,625	13,370	146	13	Nil	247	18	6	2
1945.	£52,014	£190	3,631	12,980	163	9	Nil	227	36	3	1
1936 to 1945. DECADE TOTALS.	-	-	-	-	1,567	90	1	2,103	120	58	6
ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE.	£48,059	£196	3,604	12,801	157	9	Nil	210	12	6	0.6
1946.	£52,757	£203	3,638	12,690	149	9	Nil	223	27	9	2
1947.	£53,492	£206	3,687	13,107	136	9	1	299	24	2	1
1948.	£59,631	£223	4,085	14,210	131	11	Nil	291	10	6	1
1949.	£62,963	£237	4,214	14,390	168	9	Nil	285	11	9	Nil
1950.	£63,552	£245	4,276	15,390	172	8	Nil	280	15	6	Nil
1951.	£64,952	£254	4,346	21,700	169	6	Nil	316	22	10	Nil

This, my sixteenth Annual Report, covers the last full year of service of several councillors who have voluntarily given many years service to the Mildenhall Council. Whilst thanking all the Councillors for their support and consideration, my gratitude is stressed to Messrs. F. W. Gentle, H. Lingwood, A. W. Neve and R. Spooner whose services commenced long before my arrival in the District and they are wished the many happy years which their works have merited.

They, as will the remainder of the Council, will be pleased to note how satisfactory was 1951 from a Public Health point of view in the District.

The population has increased during the year from 15,390 in 1950 to 21,700 in 1951, due to great influx from distant parts. Such an influx might have been expected to bring Public Health problems, such as an increase in Infectious Diseases, but such have not materialised. The increase has led to increase in the financial grant to the District, and this eases and expedites the provision of facilities long needed in the District.

The Crude Death Rate of Mildenhall for 1951 was 7.8 per thousand population and the Corrected Rate was 7.5. This is easily a record low rate for the District and a great improvement on the 12.5 of England and Wales. There were six Motor Vehicle Accident deaths in this rural District and it is shocking to note that four were young men in their early twenties - a very sad end to the hopes their families held for them when they set out to this country. It is notable that accidents accounted for all the deaths between the first year of life and age 25 years, other than that of the 12 year old boy already recorded. No maternal death associated with pregnancy or childbirth occurred in 1951 - indeed, the last such death occurred in 1945, so that only one maternal death has occurred whilst there have been 2,066 live babies born to residents. This record is very creditable to the District Midwives and General Practitioners and indicates their exemplary co-operation with the splendid specialist services provided at White Lodge Hospital (Newmarket General).

The country is very gratified to find that the Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1951 has fallen below 30, being 29.6 deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is a wonderful figure considering that in 1900 the Infantile Mortality Rate was 154 - almost one child in six dying before its first birthday - now less than one in thirty-three dies.
The Mildenhall Infantile Mortality Rate for 1951 was 17.8 (6 deaths, 338 births) but caution should be used in assessing this rate as the number of births is relatively small; but, the 2,062 births from 1945 till 1951 compared with the 62 deaths under a year gives, an Infantile Mortality Rate of 30 over the past seven years for the District, which is favourable and may include sufficiently large numbers to have some statistical significance.

The incidence of Infectious Disease in 1951 can be compared with previous years from the Table at the foot of page 16. Whooping Cough (22 cases), Measles (49) and Pneumonia (19) accounted for 90 of the 97 cases. The eight deaths recorded in that Table as due to Pneumonia should not be regarded as indicative of failure of the modern therapeutic drugs in cases of Acute Pneumonia, but rather as, in the main, terminal cases and indicative of the adage that "Pneumonia is the old man's friend" - a quicker and easier means of passage at a mature age than many others.

Page 7 records that a further 150 houses obtained a piped water supply during 1951 and that 77% of the houses in the District had a mains water supply at the end of the year - a very favourable comparison with other similar rural districts. As recorded at the foot of page 9 the work is well in hand to provide a piped supply to further houses in Cavenham, Herringswell, Icklingham and Tuddenham, whilst the Council's endeavours to supply further houses in Dalham is indicated at the top of page 10. These extensions will, to all intent, supply the whole of the District, (with the exception of very remote houses) with a piped water supply.

Page 10 indicates the response of Brandon property owners, in No. 1 Area, to the Council's endeavours to supply them with a sewerage scheme. This portion of the £63,000 Scheme was officially opened on 1st May, 1951, by Mr. Bernard Lingwood, (one of the Local Councillors and the Chairman of the Public Health Committee during most of the years of preparation and construction of the scheme) in the presence of Mr. F. W. Gentle and Mr. H. Lingwood, the other representatives of the parish, who also had indefatigably striven to have this amenity provided. Mr. Lingwood was ably supported at the ceremony by the Rev. Sowden, the present Public Health Chairman, symbolic of the willing co-operation of the Councillors of the remaining parishes in the District to provide, by united and wide efforts, facilities in each parish in turn, which would to individual parishes working alone be unachievable.

Recorded on page 13 is the opening during the year of the second public convenience in the District - that at Mildenhall. This is a noteworthy Public Health provision.

36 Council Houses were completed during 1951, making a total of 192 post-war houses, plus 29 prefabricated houses - the waiting list for houses for the District at the end of the year was still 290, although 11% of the houses in the District were Council Houses.

My thanks are extended to Mr. Dannatt, the Clerk to the Council, for his assistance during the year and for the provision of much information contained in this report.

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry, provides an excellent bacteriological service and most readily discusses and advises on any epidemiological or similar problem.

Dr. S. Greenburgh, Public Analyst, Tennison Road, Cambridge, gives a similar efficient and helpful service when chemical analyses are required.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The West Suffolk County Council through the agency of the Suffolk Branch of the British Red Cross Society provide the Ambulance Service for the District, mainly by ambulances stationed in Bury St. Edmunds and Newmarket - an ambulance, maintained by the Red Cross Society, manned by volunteer drivers working on a rota, is stationed at Mildenhall for emergency duties.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The West Suffolk County Council District Nurse-Midwives carry out these duties.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. These are not the responsibility of the Rural District Council.

(e) HOSPITALS. The proportion of births to the inhabitant of the District (in 1951 there were 338 live births) which occur at White Lodge Hospital (now called "Newmarket General Hospital") continues to increase.

Of the 169 deaths, 103 occurred at the resident's own home in the Mildenhall District. 18 occurred at Nursing Homes, friends homes, on the road or in the river - the remaining 48 deaths took place in hospitals as follows:-

14 West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
11 St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
5 White Lodge Hospital, Newmarket.
4 Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
3 St. Audry's Hospital, Melton.
3 Walnuttree Hospital, Sudbury.
2 Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
1 St. Barts Hospital, London.
1 Cottage Hospital, Thetford.
1 St. Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth.
1 Rous Memorial Hospital, Newmarket.
1 St. Andrews Hospital, Northampton.
1 R.A.F. Hospital, Ely.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. The Council owns three piped supply schemes in this area (1, 2 & 3) and in addition have taken over the bore, pumping plant and tank at the R.A.F. Airfield at Tuddenham (4). The Ely R.D.C. also give a supply in that part of the area through which their main passes (5).

		Houses.	Increase on 1950.
1. *	Eriswell Bore and Reservoir, which supply:-		
	Mildenhall	877	53
	Lakenheath	489	
	Eriswell	69	
	Freckenham	110	6
	Worlington	87	3
	Barton Mills	106	
2. ø	Brandon Well and Reservoir which supply:-		
	Brandon	853	39
3. θ	Moulton Bore and Tower which supply:-		
	Moulton	139	
	Gazeley	96	3
	Dalham	51	
	Kentford	64	
	Red Lodge	58	1
	Herringswell	6	
4.	Tuddenham	34	29
5.	From the Mains of the Ely R.D.C. at Beck Row and West Row	54	14
		3,093	148
	Private Piped Supplies		
	Cavenham	5	
	Elveden	101	
	Higham	72	2
	Santon Downham	67	
		3,338	150

* In addition a supply is given to the R.A.F. Station, Lakenheath and the Labour Camp attached.

ø In addition a bulk supply is given to the Swaffham R.D.C. in respect of the parish of Weeting .

θ In addition a bulk supply is given to the Newmarket R.D.C. in respect of the parish of Kennett .

There are no Public standpipes in the Area. The number of houses supplied in each parish is indicated in the following table:-

Parish.	Total Houses.	Houses with piped supplies.	% Houses supplied in parish and therefore approximate % population supplied.
Barton Mills	167	106	63%
Brandon.	894	853	95%
Cavenham.	37	5 (private supply)	14%
Dalham.	88	51	58%
Elveden.	136	101 (do.)	74%
Eriswell.	101	69	68%
Freckenham(with Red Lodge)	191	168	83%
Gazeley.	120	96	80%
Herringswell.	65	6	9%
Higham.	81	72 (do.)	89%
Icklingham.	128	Nil	Nil
Kentford.	71	64	90%
Lakenheath.	549	489	89%
Mildenhall(including 54 supplied by Ely R.D.C.)	1,215	931	77%
Moulton.	183	139	76%
Santon Downham.	86	67 (do.)	78%
Tuddenham.	108	34	31%
Wangford.	10	Nil	Nil
Worlington.	116	87	75%
Total:	4,346	3,338	77%

The latest chemical analysis of supplies, 1,2,3 & 4 (from samples collected in June 1952) carried out by Dr. S. Greenburgh gave the following results:-

"	1. Eriswell Bore.	2. Moulton Bore.	3. Brandon Dug Well.	4. Tuddenham Bore.
Physical characters.	Good.	Good.	Very slight deposit, very faintly turbid, odourless.	Very slight deposit, very faintly turbid, odourless.
Reaction.	pH 7.3	pH 7.3	pH 7.1	pH 7.3
The sample contained parts per 100,000				
Chlorine	1.80	1.55	2.35	2.5
Ammonia (Free & Saline)	0.0024	0.0004	0.0078	0.0006
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	absent	absent	0.0006	absent
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C	0.0298	0.0329	0.0346	0.0280
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.20	0.10	0.75	0.70
Nitrites	absent	absent	absent	absent
Poisonous Metals	absent	absent	absent	absent
Total Hardness	18.7	14.8	29.2	25.4
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.	Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
No. of microorganisms per ml developing on Agar at 37°C	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
No. of microorganisms per ml developing on Agar at 21°C.	55	14	5	Nil
MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.	None.	None.	Mainly mineral matter.	Mainly mineral matter.

INFERENCE.

1. Eriswell Bore. The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water of moderate hardness containing little organic matter though slightly contaminated with microorganisms capable of development at the temperature of the "cool" incubator. Coliform organisms however could not be detected in 100 mls. of the sample. I am of opinion that this water, as evidenced by the sample, is safe for drinking purposes. It is to be recommended however that an effort be made to reduce the bacterial content.
2. Brandon Bore. The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter. I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.
3. Moulton Bore. The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter. I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.
4. Tuddenham Bore. The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter. I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes. "

Tenants of new houses at Gazeley during 1951 made complaint of a green deposit being left in kettles and other utensils after the water had been boiled in these containers. Copper pipes had been used in these houses and samples were therefore sent to the Copper Development Association for examination. The Analyst reported as follows:-

Sample taken from tap over sink after allowing water to stand in pipes throughout the night.

> "This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and is neutral in reaction. It contains traces of zinc, copper and iron. It is very hard in character but not to an excessive degree and is free from any excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality is of a high standard.
>
> These results are indicative of a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. Although the amount of copper in the water is sufficient to be associated with green staining, it is not considered excessive for water which has been standing in the service pipe."

Sample taken direct from main through tap over sink. Water not allowed to remain in pipes.

> "This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and is neutral in reaction. It contains a trace of zinc but only a negligible trace of copper. The water is very hard in character but its hardness and its contents of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality is of a high standard. These results are indicative of a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. The analysis does not indicate any unusually marked corrosive characteristics and the water is considered suitable for use with copper service pipes."

When the pipes had been in use some months this staining ceased to be evident.

Twelve bacteriological samples taken, one each month, from the bore at the Eriswell supply were satisfactory - all showed no coliform bacilli, as also was the case with the Brandon twelve samples. Eleven of the Moulton samples were likewise free from coliform bacilli, whilst the August sample showed 2 non-faecal coli per 100 ml (probably an artifact of collection).
The monthly samples from Tuddenham supply were also satisfactory until July when 25 Faecal Coli per 100 ml were reported. These faecal coli disappeared with a few days (an have not since reappeared)but non-faecal coli were present in the subsequent months of the year in the ten samples taken thereafter. These non-faecal coli had disappeared in January 1952.

It is thought that these organisms resulted from repairs and replacements to the pump, but it should be noted that all the samples from the public supplies were taken from the bores prior to treatment and that all the public supplies are chlorinated at points after where the samples are obtained.

53 bacteriological samples from Council supplies were therefore taken during 1951 - in addition 19 samples were taken from private supplies of which 12 proved unsatisfactory (the use of four of these sources has been discontinued as the premises are now connected to the public supplies, but the remaining 8,being in remote parts of the District,still continue to use the water after boiling it).
At no time during 1951 had the use of water,from the piped supplies, to be restricted owing to drought or other cause.

The daily output (in thousand of gallons) during December 1951 was:-

Eriswell 173
Brandon 66
Moulton 37

The pipes necessary to commence the extensions from Tuddenham became available in 1951 and by the 31st December the greater part of Tuddenham village had been piped and 29 additional properties (of which 24 were Council houses) had been connected. Work on the extensions to Icklingham, Cavenham and Herringswell,from Tuddenham, were making good progress.

Owing to Clare R.D.C. not having been able to progress as fast as expected, a supply of water to the Dunstall Green part of the parish of Dalham, which adjoins the Clare District, was not provided during 1951.

The proposed extension of the Brandon Waterworks was not undertaken during 1951 as the scheme was still in the hands of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. On the 1st May, 1951, the Brandon Sewerage Scheme (No.1 Area) came into operation. By the end of the year the following were connected to the sewers:-

117	pail closets in private properties converted to W.C's.
38	W.C's in private properties previously drained to cesspools
28	W.C's in Council Houses previously drained to cesspools
183	

117 conversions represents a good response, in the time, to the action of the Council in defraying half the cost of each conversion (up to a maximum amount of £15 payable by the Council). It is hoped that all other owners will avail themselves of this grant, so that night-soil collection, in Brandon by the Authority, may be discontinued within two years of the full scheme coming into operation.
The time, from a Public Health point of view, is more than ripe for Mildenhall Parish and Lakenheath to be provided with similar Sewerage Schemes - the difficulty is to obtain an estimate which would allow the work to be carried out at a sufficiently low cost per house to allow the Ministry to approve the figure. Apparently there is hope at the Ministry that costs for such works will fall to a level satisfactory to them - all wish that their hope will speedily be justified.

Some 930 cesspools in the area are cleared at intervals by the Council's Mechanical Cesspool Emptier. During 1951, 905 clearances were made (255 of which were free of charge under the Council's clearance scheme). The excess number of clearances over the 1950 figure of 544, was possible because the purchase of a new vehicle allowed two vehicles to operate during the months of June, July, August and September. This work will increase, (despite the disuse of a number of cesspools at Brandon) as new houses become occupied.

New drains with cesspools were constructed in connection with 29 privately erected new houses and temporary dwellings and with 21 existing properties. In the parish of Brandon houses were provided with drains for sullage water when the pail closets were converted to W.C's., and connected to the Sewer. These figures do not include drains provided to new Council Houses and Temporary dwellings.

THE BRANDON SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The following information has been obtained from the Programme of the Official Opening prepared by Mr. F. Dannatt, Clerk to the Council.

The statistics of the Rural District and of the contained parish of Brandon on the 1st April, 1951, were:-

	District.	Parish.
Area	86,759 acres.	6,783 acres
Estimated Population	15,390.	2,998.
Rateable Value	£63,552.	£10,141.
Product of 1d. rate	£245.	£39.

In 1900 the Parish Council realised the need for a piped water supply and acting as a Parochial Committee of the Brandon R.D.C. carried out the installation of a waterworks and a piped water supply to all parts of the town. This was financed entirely by the Parish.

With the approaching end of the loan repayments in sight, the Parish Council, elected in 1931, acting as a Parochial Committee, instructed Messrs. W. Herbert Bateman & Partners to prepare a sewerage scheme and this was submitted during 1933. Unfortunately the national depression at that time had curtailed loans for public works. In 1935 the Brandon Rural District Council was dissolved and Brandon entered the Mildenhall Rural District. Then came the second world war.

In September 1944 the National Government announced the provision of £15,000,000 in grants for rural water and sewerage schemes and the Mildenhall Rural District Council acted immediately on Brandon's Scheme. Messrs. Bateman quickly revised the scheme of 1933, and on the 19th February, 1946, and Inquiry was held into the Council's application to borrow the sum of £65,250, being the estimated cost of the works. In due course, loan sanction was granted and the contract let.

In its final form, the sewerage scheme for the Parish of Brandon is divided into three pumping areas. Owing to the flat nature of a large part of the District, it was found impossible to design a wholly gravitational system.

The main part of the town is covered by Pumping Area No.1. This includes the Market Place, Bury Road, London Road, part of Thetford Road, and a small section of Town Street. Sewage from the whole of this area gravitates to the main pumping station, Pumping Station No.1, situated just north of St. Peter's Church, and then it is pumped to the Sewage Disposal Works.

A small area round the Thetford Road at the south-eastern extremity of the Parish, was found to be too low to gravitate into Pumping Area No.1., so a small Ejector Station was constructed to serve this area. From this Ejector Station, the sewage is pumped to the head of a sewer further up the Thetford Road, in Pumping Area No.1., whence it gravitates to Pumping Station No.1.

Quite an appreciable amount of work done in this scheme was carried out in waterlogged ground, the water level being less than five feet below ground in places. Reinforced concrete pipes were used in this type of ground, but in all other parts, stoneware pipes were used.

In the construction of Pumping Station No.1., much difficulty was experienced due to the waterlogged conditions, and the Wellpoint De-watering System was used in order to keep the excavation clear of water, so that concrete could be placed in a working area which was in a fairly dry condition.

The General Contractors who carried out the work were Messrs. F. W. Shanks, Ltd., of Hunstanton, Norfolk. The Resident Engineer appointed by the Council was Mr. E. H. Claxton, and the scheme was designed and the construction supervised by the Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. W. Herbert Bateman & Partners, of Westminster.

Messrs. Adams-Hydraulics Ltd., of York, supplied the pumping machinery for Pumping Station No.1., the Ejectors for the Brandon Bridge Station, and all ironwork and fittings in the disposal works. The Ejectors at the Thetford Road Ejector Station were supplied by Messrs. Ames Crosta Mills & Co. Ltd., Heywood, Lancs., and the Lea Recorder Co., Ltd. provided the recording apparatus for the disposal works.

The Sewage Disposal works are designed to give complete treatment to a dry weather flow of 82,500 gallons per 24 hours. The crude sewage enters the works through an 8" diameter rising main from the nearby Pumping Station No.1.

Pumping Station. In the pumping station, there are installed a duplicate set of 4" dia. centrifugal pumps, designed to deliver 180 gallons per minute against a total head of 27.5 feet, and driven by means of 5 B.H.P., 3 phase, 400 volt, 50 cycle slipring motors. In addition, there is another similar 5" dia. storm pump designed to deliver 340 gallons per minute against a total head of 30 feet, and driven by a 9 B.H.P. Slipring motor.

Balancing Tank. The rising main delivers directly into the balancing tank which has a capacity of 900 gallons. This serves to even out the spasmodic delivery given by the pumps, and produces an even flow through the remainder of the works. The rate of draw-off from this tank is controlled by means of a constant volume floating arm.

Detritus Tank. The sewage passes through a single detritus tank of capacity 1375 gallons, and it contains a simple wrought-iron screen, about 5 square feet in area, which intercepts any very large solids coming through the tank.

Flow Recorder. A "Lea" flow recorder, consisting of the usual arrangement of an hydraulic flume, together with its measuring apparatus, is installed immediately after the detritus tank. This apparatus gives a continuous record of the rate of flow of sewage through the works.

Settlement Tanks. After passing through the hydraulic flume of the recorder, the sewage enters two settlement tanks of the horizontal continuous flow type. The size of each tank is 40'0" by 17'6", with an average depth of 6'0" and capacity 26,250 gallons. In these tanks, the flow of sewage is slowed to such an extent that much of the solid matter floating in it settles to the bottom and the water passes gently out over a weir at the far end of the tanks. The solid matter is periodically scraped to one end and passed out through a sludge plug to the sludge sump.

Dosing Chambers. There are two dosing chambers installed after the settlement tanks, each with an automatic dosing syphon. At present only one of these is required until the future extensions require an additional filter bed.

Percolating Filter. The single percolating filter has a diameter of 72'6" and an average media depth of 6'0", giving a capacity of 917 cubic yards. Sewage passes from the dosing syphon into a revolving distributor, flows out along the four arms, and is sprinkled over the surface of the bed. It then percolates down through the clinker of which the media consists, and during its passage down bacteria consume the greater portion of the remaining small solid matter, leaving the liquid, or effluent as it is now termed, fairly pure.

Humus Tanks. There are two humus tanks, each 27'0" long by 13'6" wide, with an average depth of 3'0", giving a total capacity of 13,750 gallons. These tanks act in a similar manner to the settlement tanks, and any solids which escape through the filter, settle to the bottom and are again removed periodically.

The final effluent passes over a weir at the end of the humus tanks into a small sampling chamber, and thence into the effluent drain to the river.

Sludge Pumping Station. The solid matter, termed sludge, gravitates from the balancing, settlement and humus tanks to what is called the sludge and supernatant water sump at the sludge pumping station. Here are installed a duplicate set of 4" dia. belt-driven sludge pumps, each capable of delivering at least 200 gallons of sludge per minute against a static lift of over 12 feet head. The pumps are belt-driven by 7½ B.H.P. Petter air-cooled petrol engines.

Sludge Drying Beds. These are six in number, each being 52'0" long by 20'0" wide, giving a total drying area of 688 square yards, equivalent to 4 persons per square yard. The bed floors are constructed of screened clinker with a 3" layer of fine ashes on top. Land drains are provided under the floors, the drainage being returned to the sludge sumps, whence it is pumped to the settlement tanks for re-treatment.

Cost of Scheme. Tenders for the work as finally approved were obtained in April, 1948, and the accepted figure amounted to £62,715.

Because of the delay in proceeding with Pumping Area No.2., only about three-quarters of this sum has been expended up to date on construction work. It is hoped that the Council will be able to proceed with the remainder of the scheme at an early date, as a result of the recent public Inquiry regarding the acquisition of land for the new Brandon Bridge.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. The condition of the rivers and streams throughout the District remained substantially the same as in previous years.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The number of pail closets cleared weekly in the parishes of Mildenhall High Town and Lakenheath Village remained approximately the same as in 1950, but in Brandon the number was reduced by 117 as the result of conversion to W.C's., and connecting to the sewer. The following changes were made in connection with existing properties:-

New and Additional Closets. Privately Owned		29
Conversion and connected to Sewer in Brandon		117
" in other parts of the District (Private)	To cesspools	39
" at Pre-War houses by Council (by Council)		8

Public Conveniences. There has been a Public Convenience at Brandon since 1940. During 1951 public conveniences were completed in Mildenhall. These conveniences (thanks to the co-operation of Mr. E. Carter, who agreed to sell the Council the land and give the use of an existing cesspool) are situated in a cul-de-sac off High Street. They were built under contract by Messrs. Cocksedge of Mildenhall to the plans and specifications of Mr. John Adams of Newmarket.

There is no doubt that the need for these conveniences has existed for many years and that the facilities provided will be much appreciated by the inhabitants and visitors to Mildenhall High Town.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The arrangements for this service were continued as in previous years. The work increases with every new house erected. During the year these were as follows:-

Local Authority - 36 Council Houses, 8 Hutments.
Private Owners - 13 Houses, 16 Temporary Dwellings.

Consideration again was given to the matter of the provision of a second vehicle and a back door collection as also a more frequent service in those parishes where refuse is now collected only once a month. No definite action had been taken by the end of the year.

In the early part of the year waste paper was in big demand as raw material, and tonnage collected during the complete year was 42 tons. The weight of other materials salvaged (metal, rags, bones, etc.) amounted to 14 tons approximately.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following table summarises the work carried out by the two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Trotter and Mr. Banks. Again I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to them for their co-operation throughout the year and for their assistance in the compilation of this report.

Inspection and re-inspection of houses under Public Health Act and Housing Act	1,145
Council House Management and Repairs	288
Building Bye-laws	202
Tents, Vans, Sheds (including Ex-W.D. and R.A.F. Camps taken over by the Council)	101
Factories and Workshops	20
Shops and Offices	23
School Sanitation	2
Drains, etc.	381
Dairies	8
Public Conveniences	58
Disinfections and Disinfestations	15
Interviews	324
Nuisances	72

111 Informal Notices were served during the year and owners complied with 90.

Statutory Notices were authorised in 2 cases and both were complied with. In addition the outstanding notice for 1950 was also complied with during the year.

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	13	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	58	17	1	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	71	20	1	Nil

* i.e. Electrical Stations (Sections 103 (1)), Institutions. (Section 104) and sites and Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted,
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. Twenty-three inspections were made during the year. In two cases the provision of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities were called for.

(v) CAMPING SITES. There are 36 Licensed Camping Sites in the area comprising some 75 caravans. These are mainly occupied by American service men. In addition the Council have sites of Temporary dwellings in the form of Nissen Huts at Brandon (103), Mildenhall (26), Freckenham (30), Tuddenham (5), occupied by approximately 172 families. 101 visits of inspections were made during the year.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. No smoke nuisance arises in this area.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. There are no swimming baths in the District, but some inhabitants, despite warning, successfully continued to take the risk of bathing in the polluted river.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No houses were required to be treated during 1951.

(ix) RAT DESTRUCTION. The Rodent Operator inspected 369 premises and carried out eradication work at 329 of these. The number of bodies picked up after treatment was 1,043. Treatment of dwelling houses is carried out without charge but 5/6d. per hour is charged in respect of business premises.

(x) SCHOOLS. Two visits of inspection were paid to schools.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. (1)	(a) Total number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts.	596
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	1,145
(2)	Number of houses (included under Sub-Head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1935.	1
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	2
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding Sub-Head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation. Private	70
	Council	288
(5)	Number of houses demolished during the year as the result of previous demolition orders.	1

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers:-

By Owners	70
By Council	288

Number of houses completely reconditioned by Owners (exclusive of above) as shown by Licences granted. 25

POST-WAR HOUSING.

	New Houses Built. Council.	Private Enterprise.
1946	Nil	36
1947	26(+ 29 Pre-fabricated)	12
1948	39	7
1949	35	13
1950	56	8
1951	36	13
	192(+ 29 Prefabs)	89

During the year 9 family units were provided by private individuals by converting a number of buildings and huts, not intended as dwelling houses, into separate tenements. Also 8 family units were provided by the Council by converting brick buildings at London Road Camp, Brandon.

Council Houses built during the year 1951 were Brandon 24, Herringswell 2, Mildenhall 6, Moulton 2, West Row 2, making the position as at the end of 1951 as under:-

Parish.	Total Houses in Parish.	COUNCIL HOUSES. Total.	Pre-war.	War-time Emergency Programme.	Post-War.	% of Houses in the Parish which are Council Houses.
Barton Mills.	167	26	14		12	16%
Brandon.	894	145	94		51	16%
Cavenham.	37					-
Dalham.	88					-
Elveden.	136					-
Eriswell.	101					-
Freckenham.	191	22	6		16	12%
Gazeley.	120	6			6	5%
Herringswell.	65	8		2	6	12%
Higham.	81					-
Icklingham.	128	16	6		10	13%
Kentford.	71	12			12	17%
Lakenheath.	549	88	44	2	42	16%
Mildenhall.	1,215	124	80	2	42	10%
Moulton.	183	14			14	8%
Santon Downham.	86					-
Tuddenham.	108	22	14		8	20%
Wangford.	10					-
Worlington.	116	10	8		2	9%
	4,346	493	266	6	221	11%

SECTION E.
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. The number of retailers in the area is 12.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. Central slaughtering has taken killing outside our District.

During the year 1951 the undermentioned food was condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Beef	26½	lbs.
Ox Head	29	lbs.
Sheeps Pluck	6½	lbs.
Sheeps Head.	9½	lbs.
Lamb.	2½	lbs.
Ham, canned.	232	lbs. in 22 tins.
Meat.	29	tins (various sizes)
Fish.	6	" " "
Vegetable & canned soup	31	" " "
Fruit.	54	" " "
Milk.	31	" " "
Cheese.	7	pkts.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC. No change.

(d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION. See page 9.

(e) NUTRITION.
(f) SHELL-FISH.
(g) WATER-CRESS.
No change.

SECTION F.
PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of confirmed infectious disease cases notified was 97 (compare table below). There were no deaths from the Infectious Diseases other than Pneumonia, and 1951 may, therefore, be considered to have been a satisfactory year with regard to the incidence of infectious diseases, especially having regard to the influx and changing nature of the population.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	Measles.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Dysentery.	Erysipelas.	Meningococcal Infection.	Food Poisoning.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Infective Hepatitis.	Undulant Fever.	Malaria.	Infectious Disease Deaths.	Total Cases.
	A.	⁎B.	C.	⁎D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.	K.	L.	ØM.	N.	O.		
1951.	3	22	1	49	-	19	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8(8F)	97
1950.	24	27	-	116	-	11	-	6	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6(6F)	187
1949.	10	1	1	301	-	6	-	2	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	6(6F)	324
1948.	21	109	-	11	-	6	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	7(7F)	150
1947.	27	33	1	54	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7(7F)	121
1946.	9	8	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7(7F)	25
1945.	8	8	-	43	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6(1D5F)	62
1944.	1	3	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2(2F)	39
1943.	2	3	-	6	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2(2F)	14
1942.	4	16	-	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4(2F2K)	38
1941.	14	23	-	88	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4(1D1E2F)	135
1940.	17	41	-	12	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7(1B1E5F)	75
1939.	65	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6(5F1K)	70
1938.	9	-	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	5(4F1K)	17
1937.	12	-	2	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	1	3(1c1F1K)	25
1936.	11	-	-	-	1	4	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3(3F)	19

⁎ Measles and Whooping Cough were only made notifiable from October 1939.
Ø Infective Hepatitis became notifiable in 1943.
The first Diphtheria Immunisations were completed in 1941.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1951.

	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Paralytic Poliomyelitis.		Measles.		Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Erysipelas.		Meningococcal Infection.	
Grand Total: M. F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
97 46 51 Totals:	2	1	6	16	1	0	30	19	5	14	1	0	1	0	0	1
Age 0 to under 1	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 " " 3	-	-	2	3	-	-	8	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 " " 5	1	-	-	5	-	-	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 " " 10	1	1	2	5	-	-	13	10	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
10 " " 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 " " 25	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 " " 45	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 " " 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

During 1951 there were 16 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified (compare 19 in 1950)and 3 Non-Pulmonary (compare 4 in 1950).

16 Pulmonary:	10 Males, aged 5,5,5,20,30,30,31,31,38,44. 6 Females, aged 4,5,20,31,37.38.
3 Non-Pulmonary:	1 Male, aged 8. 2 Females, 17,30.

Deaths in 1951 were 2 (compare 3 in 1950), as under:-

Pulmonary, Male 30.
" Female 47.